

Weekly Police Beat for the week ending December 27, 2019

Village Officers Arrest Package Thief on Grove Street Alert residents witnessed the theft, quickly called police

On Saturday, December 21, 2019, at about 9:30 a.m., a resident of Grove Street watched an unknown man walk into his driveway and pull on the door handles of his cars. The resident then watched the same man try the doors of his neighbor's car. The resident called the Village Police and Officers Joseph Chung and James Timmerman responded.

Once the officers arrived on scene, a second resident informed them that he had watched the suspect steal an Amazon box from the front stoop of a home on Grove Street. Soon thereafter, a third resident came forward and informed the officers that she had seen the suspect carrying a book shortly before Officer Chung arrived.

Officer Chung quickly detained the suspect. When Officer Timmerman arrived to assist, the officers used the observations from our residents to find the discarded Amazon box under a nearby pile of leaves and the discarded contents of the box—a cookbook—at a nearby house; the suspect dropped the book on the front porch of a random home.

Officer Chung arrested the man, identified as Maurice Smith, 39, of Washington, DC, and charged him with theft and attempted theft, and transported him to the county processing center in Rockville.

This arrest was the result of excellent teamwork by several alert residents collaborating with our quick-acting Village police officers. The Village Police Department is grateful to our residents for their help in stopping this thief in his tracks.